

What is claimed is:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
an image forming device that forms images on  
sheets in accordance with an image forming job;  
5 a conveying device that conveys the sheets on  
which the images have been formed by said image forming  
device to a container detachably attached to the image  
forming apparatus; and  
a writing device that writes information relating  
10 to the image forming job for the sheets conveyed by  
said conveying device into a memory provided in the  
container.
2. An image forming apparatus according to claim  
1, wherein said writing device writes identification  
15 information relating to the image forming job.
3. An image forming apparatus according to claim  
1, wherein said writing device writes page information  
relating to the images formed on the sheets.
4. An image forming apparatus according to claim  
20 1, wherein said writing device writes information  
relating to at least one selected from the group  
consisting of sheet size, print number, number of  
sheets, number of copies, sheet stacking method,  
material, page order, and image forming apparatus  
25 identity.
5. An image forming apparatus according to claim  
1, wherein said writing device writes at least one

selected from the group consisting of information for distinguishing a sheet with an abnormality and information for distinguishing a set of sheets that include a sheet with an abnormality.

5           6.    An image forming apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the abnormality is at least one abnormality selected from the group consisting out of multiply feeding or skewing of sheets, registration misalignment, and color abnormality after image formation.

10           7.    An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the container is detachably attached to another image forming apparatus and contains sheets.

            8.    An image forming apparatus comprising:  
                an image forming device that forms images on  
15 sheets in accordance with an image forming job;  
                a feeding device that feeds sheets stored in a container detachably attached to the image forming apparatus; and

                a reading device that reads information written  
20 into a memory provided in the container and relating to the image forming job for the sheets stored in the container.

            9.    An image forming apparatus according to claim 8, comprising a control device that performs processing  
25 of at least one sheet with an abnormality contained in the container, based on the information read by said reading device.

10. An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image forming device that performs image formation on sheets;

5 a container device that is attached to the image forming apparatus and contains the sheets on which image formation has been performed by said image forming device;

a storage device that is provided in said storage device and stores storage information relating to the  
10 sheets;

a detecting device that detects whether there is an abnormality in the sheets; and

a control device that generates recovery information for recovering at least one sheet for which  
15 an abnormality has been detected by said detecting device, and stores the recovery information in said storage device.

11. An image forming apparatus comprising:

20 an image forming device that performs image formation on sheets;

a container device that is detachably attached to the image forming apparatus and contains sheets on which image formation has been performed by another image forming apparatus;

25 a storage section that is provided in said container device and stores storage information relating to the sheets contained in said container

device;

an insertion device that inserts the sheets  
contained in said container device into the sheets on  
which image formation has been performed by said image  
5 forming device; and

a control device operable when said container  
device is attached to the image forming apparatus while  
recovery information including information capable of  
determining whether there is an abnormality in the  
10 sheets is stored in said storage device as the storage  
information, for causing said insertion device to  
insert the sheets contained in said container device  
into the sheets on which information formation has been  
performed by said image forming device, based on the  
15 recovery information.

12. An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image forming device that performs image  
formation on sheets;

an insertion device that is attached to the image  
20 forming apparatus and performs a sheet insertion of  
sheets on which image formation has been performed by  
another image forming apparatus into the sheets on  
which image formation has been performed by said image  
forming device;

25 a container device that is attached to said  
insertion device and contains the sheets on which image  
formation has been performed by the other image forming

apparatus;

a storage device that is provided in said container device and stores storage information relating to the sheets;

5 an insertion control device operable when said container device is attached to said insertion device, for causing said insertion device to perform the sheet insertion based on the storage information stored in said storage device;

10 a detection device that detects whether there is an abnormality in the sheets;

a first recovery device that performs a first recovery process when an abnormality in any of the sheets is detected by said detection device; and

15 a writing device that writes information that is necessary for recovery into said storage device provided in said container device.

13. An image forming apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising a second recovery device  
20 operable when the information that is necessary for a recovery has been written into said storage device and said storage device has been attached to said insertion device, for performing a second recovery process based on the information that is necessary for a recovery in  
25 said storage device.

14. An image forming system having a plurality of image forming apparatuses, and a network via which the

image forming apparatuses are connected, at least one of the image forming apparatuses comprising:

an image forming device that forms images on sheets in accordance with an image forming job;

5 a conveying device that conveys the sheets on which the images have been formed by said image forming device to a container detachably attached to the image forming apparatus; and

a writing device that writes information relating to the image forming job for the sheets conveyed by said conveying device into a memory provided in the container.

15 15. An image forming system having a plurality of image forming apparatuses, and a network via which the image forming apparatuses are connected, at least one of the image forming apparatuses comprising:

an image forming device that forms images on sheets in accordance with an image forming job;

20 a feeding device that feeds sheets stored in a container detachably attached to the image forming apparatus; and

a reading device that reads information written into a memory provided in the container and relating to the image forming job for the sheets stored in the container.

25 16. An image forming system having a plurality of image forming apparatuses, and a network via which the

image forming apparatuses are connected, at least one of the image forming apparatuses comprising:

an image forming device that performs image formation on sheets;

5 a container device that is attached to the image forming apparatus and contains the sheets on which image formation has been performed by said image forming device;

a storage device that is provided in said storage  
10 device and stores storage information relating to the sheets;

a detecting device that detects whether there is an abnormality in the sheets; and

a control device that generates recovery  
15 information for recovering at least one sheet for which an abnormality has been detected by said detecting device, and stores the recovery information in said storage device.

17. An image forming system having first and  
20 second image forming apparatuses, and a network via which the first and second image forming apparatuses are connected, the first image forming apparatus comprising:

an image forming device that performs image  
25 formation on sheets;

a container device that is detachably attached to the first image forming apparatus and contains sheets

on which image formation has been performed by the second image forming apparatus;

a storage section that is provided in said storage device and stores storage information relating to the  
5 sheets contained in said container device;

an insertion device that inserts the sheets stored in said container device into the sheets on which image formation has been performed by said image forming device; and

10 a control device operable when said container device is attached to the first image forming apparatus while recovery information including information capable of determining whether there is an abnormality in the sheets is stored in said storage device as the  
15 storage information, for causing said insertion device to insert the sheets contained in said container device into the sheets on which information formation has been performed by said image forming device, based on the recovery information.

20 18. An image forming system having first and second image forming apparatuses, and a network via which the first and second image forming apparatuses are connected, the first image forming apparatus comprising:

25 an image forming device that performs image formation on sheets;

an insertion device that is attached to the first



image forming apparatus and performs a sheet insertion of sheets on which image formation has been performed by the second image forming apparatus into the sheets on which image formation has been performed by said

5 image forming device;

a container device that is attached to said insertion device and contains the sheets on which image formation has been performed by the second image forming apparatus;

10 a storage device that is provided in said container device and stores storage information relating to the sheets;

an insertion control device operable when said container device is attached to said insertion device,  
15 for causing said insertion device to perform the sheet insertion based on the storage information stored in said storage device;

a detection device that detects whether there is an abnormality in the sheets;

20 a first recovery device that performs a first recovery process when said detection device has detected an abnormality in any of the sheets; and

a writing device that writes information that is necessary for recovery into said storage device  
25 provided in said storage device.

19. A recovery processing method of an image forming apparatus, the method comprising the step of:

an image forming step that forms images on sheets in accordance with an image forming job;

a conveying step that conveys the sheets on which the images have been formed in said image forming step  
5 to a container detachably attached to the image forming apparatus; and

a writing step that writes information relating to the image forming job for the sheets conveyed in said conveying step into a memory provided in the container.

10 20. A recovery processing method for an image forming apparatus, comprising the steps of:

an image forming step of forming images on sheets in accordance with an image forming job;

a feeding step of feeding sheets stored in a  
15 container detachably attached to the image forming apparatus; and

a reading step of reading information written into a memory provided in the container and relating to the image forming job for the sheets stored in the  
20 container.

21. A recovery processing method for an image forming apparatus, comprising the steps of:

an image forming step of performing image formation on sheets;

25 a containing step of containing the sheets on which image formation has been performed in said image forming step into a container device that is attached

to the image forming apparatus;

a storing step of storing storage information relating to the sheets in a storage device that is provided in the storage device;

5 a detecting step of detecting whether there is an abnormality in the sheets; and

a control step of generating recovery information for recovering at least one sheet for which an abnormality has been detected in said detecting step,  
10 and storing the recovery information in the storage device.

22. A recovery processing method for an image forming apparatus, comprising the steps of:

an image forming step of performing image  
15 formation on sheets;

a containing step of containing the sheets on which image formation has been performed in said image forming step into a container device that is attached to the image forming apparatus and contains;

20 a storing step of storing storage information relating to the sheets in a storage device that is provided in the container device;

an insertion step of inserting the sheets contained in said containing step into the sheets on  
25 which image formation has been performed in said image forming step; and

a control step of causing said insertion step to

insert the sheets contained in the container device into the sheets on which information formation has been performed in said image forming step, based on recovery information including information capable of  
5 determining whether there is an abnormality in the sheets is stored in said storage device as the storage information, when the container device is attached to the image forming apparatus while the recovery information is stored in the storage device as the  
10 storage information.

23. A recovery processing method for an image forming apparatus, comprising the step of:

an image forming step of performing image formation on sheets;

15 an insertion step of causing an insertion device that is attached to the image forming apparatus to perform a sheet insertion of sheets on which image formation has been performed by another image forming apparatus into the sheets on which image formation has  
20 been performed in said image forming step;

a containing step of containing the sheets on which image formation has been performed by the other image forming apparatus into a container device that is attached to the insertion device;

25 a storing step of storing storage information relating to the sheets in a storage device that is provided in the container device;

an insertion control step of causing said  
insertion step to perform the sheet insertion based on  
the storage information stored in the storage device  
when the container device is attached to the insertion  
5 device;

a detection step of detecting whether there is an  
abnormality in the sheets;

a first recovery step of performing a first  
recovery process when an abnormality in any of the  
10 sheets is detected in said detection step; and

a writing step of writing information that is  
necessary for recovery into the storage device provided  
in the container device.

24. A computer-readable program for implementing  
15 a recovery processing method according to any of claims  
20 to 22.

25. A storage medium that stores a computer-  
readable program according to claim 23.